AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) An aluminum flake pigment comprising aluminum flakes as basic particles, wherein said aluminum flakes have an average particle diameter in the range of 3 to 20 μm and an average value of minimum diameter/maximum diameter of at least 0.6.

2. (Original) The aluminum flake pigment according to claim 1, wherein the average aspect ratio of aluminum flakes, included in said aluminum flakes, having diameters of not more than 10 μm is in the range of 8 to 20.

3. (Original) The aluminum flake pigment according to claim 1, wherein said aluminum flake pigment is a leafing type aluminum flake pigment, and the average value of fatty acid adsorption amounts on the surfaces of said aluminum flakes is 0.0008 to 0.002 mole/cm^2.

4. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing the aluminum flake pigment ~~according to~~ of claim 1, ~~comprising a~~ which compromises the step of flaking aluminum powder in an organic solvent with a ~~grinder comprising~~ grinding spherical media ~~containing spherical media comprising~~ made of a material including steel having diameters in the range of 0.3 mm to 1.5 mm.

5. (Original) The method of manufacturing the aluminum flake pigment according to claim 4, wherein the average particle diameter ($D50_{Al}$) of said aluminum powder is in the range of 1.0 to 10.0 μm.

6. (Original) A paint containing the aluminum flake pigment according to claim 1 and a binder.

7. (Original) Ink containing the aluminum flake pigment according to claim 1 and a binder.

8. (New) The aluminum flake pigment of claim 1, wherein the aluminum flakes have an average value of minimum diameter/maximum diameter of 0.6 to 1.0.